

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listing of the claims in this application.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Original) An assembly of a bicycle fork (1) and of a steering headset (J) on a steering column (2) of a bicycle frame, the fork being secured to a pivot (3) which is extended (3a) beyond the end of the steering column furthest from the fork to allow the attachment of a handlebar by externally clamping the pivot, the steering headset (J) comprising a lower bearing (7) and an upper bearing (8) which are arranged between the pivot and the column, while an adjusting means (M) for adjusting the axial clamping of the steering headset is provided, characterized in that:

- the pivot (3) comprises, in the region of the end of the steering column furthest from the fork, on its exterior surface, a zone (B) equipped with first connecting means (13), the extension (3a) of the pivot on the opposite side to the fork (1) having no such connecting means,

- and a bushing (15) equipped with second connecting means (16), complementing those of the pivot, is provided to allow the axial clamping of the steering headset to be adjusted by collaboration with the first connecting means.

2. (Original) The assembly as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the zone (B) of the first connecting means (13) consists of a ring (14) of determined length slipped around the pivot and fixed to the latter.

3. (Original) The assembly as claimed in Claim 2, characterized in that the ring (14) has an external screw thread (13) constituting the first connecting means.

4. (Original) The assembly as claimed in Claim 3, characterized the second connecting means are formed by an internal screw thread (16) provided on the bushing (15) and the conjugate of that (13) of the ring.

5. (Currently amended) The assembly as claimed in ~~one of Claims 2 to 4~~ Claim 2, characterized in that the ring (14) is fixed to the pivot by bonding.

6. (Original) The assembly as claimed in Claim 5, characterized in that the pivot (3) is made of composite and the attached ring (14) is made of metal.

7. (Currently amended) The assembly as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that the bushing (15) is formed of a steering cup (17).

8. (Currently amended) The assembly as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that a rotation-proofing brake (24) is provided between the bushing (15) and the pivot (3) .

9. (Currently amended) A bicycle fork (1) for an assembly as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 8~~ Claim 1, secured to a pivot (3) which is extended (3a) to allow a handlebar to be attached by external clamping of the pivot, characterized in that the pivot (3) comprises, in a region furthest from the fork, on its exterior surface, a zone (B) equipped with first connecting means (13), the extension (3a) of the pivot on the opposite side to the fork (1) having no such connecting means.

10. (Original) The bicycle fork as claimed in Claim 9, characterized in that the zone (B) of the pivot equipped with the first connecting means (13) consists of a ring (14) of determined length slipped around the pivot and fixed to the latter.